

Media Contact:

Sarah Ardalani Public Information Officer 213-974-3525 SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

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La Puente Man Convicted of Child Sex Abuse

A 45-year-old man was convicted today of sexually abusing two female family members, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

A jury deliberated for less than three hours before finding Mark Christopher Acosta (dob 8/17/69) of La Puente guilty of four counts of oral copulation or sexual penetration with child 10 years old or younger, three counts of lewd act upon a child and one count each of continuous sexual abuse and child molesting in case KA104800.

The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced April 7 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Pomona, Department S. He faces a possible maximum sentence of 120 years to life in state prison. Additionally, he will have to register as a lifetime sex offender.

Deputy District Attorney Babette Huley, who prosecuted the case, said Acosta sexually abused two female family members at separate times between 2001 and 2009.

The first victim revealed the abuse to an adult in 2007, but the adult did not believe her, the prosecutor said.

In 2013, the second victim came forward about being sexually assaulted. As a result, the first victim also alerted authorities to the abuse she suffered.

On Feb. 21, 2014, sheriff deputies arrested Acosta and he was subsequently charged.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice

for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.	